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俺が無職の職業冒険者を目指すワケ。2

I Aim to Be an Adventurer with the Jobclass of “Jobless”

Arc I - Adventurer Training Institute, 「the Royal
Academy Jupiter」

Part 2

by スフレ

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Chapter 47 - Raphie's Specially Made Bento ①

With the lesson for Magic Theory ended, the lessons in the morning have all concluded.

Though I can't help but feel sleepy throughout the classroom lectures, Eri would always pinch my sides whenever I am about to fall asleep.

For a intense fight with the sleep monster, the sensation was a light exhausted feeling.

"Mars, if it's fine with you, how about going to the canteen together?"

Though Eri invited me for lunch,

"I am to eat with Raphie at the courtyard today."

Though I said that, the person in question Raphie have not arrived at the classroom yet.

“E.....I, I see..... with Raphie-san.”

As I said that, Eri floated a bewildered expression.

Now I think of it, we didn't ate lunch yesterday as well, did we?

If that's the case,

“If it's okay, would Eri want to join us?”

“But, doesn't Raphie-san wants to eat with Mars with just the two of you?”

Though I tried inviting, she was being tactful.

It seems like she is being reserved for Raphie.

“I don’t think Raphie would be reluctant though?”

“Even then, I believe her real intention is to eat with just the two of you.”

Saying as if she has full confidence in it,

“As I will go to the canteen to eat, Mars should just go and eat with Raphie-san alone.”

“I really don’t mind though....”

“You made a promise right?”

“.....a promise, you say.”

It's definitely the case.

Even though everything was planned one-sidedly, I did not disagree to it.

As Raphie went to the extend of being absent from lessons to make me a delicious bento, I should respond to those feelings of hers.

"That's true."

I assented to Eri's words.

"Then, I will be going to the canteen."

"Ah. Let's meet again during the afternoon's lessons."

Waving her hands to answer those words, Eri left the classroom.

(Now then, what should I do until Raphie comes....)

The classroom during the break is unexpectedly quiet.

As most of the students are advancing to the canteen, I guess it should be natural.

The rays of the sunlight from the window feels really good, warming up the body.

It is seducing me, who wanted to fall asleep during the lesson of Magic Theory, to sleep.

I might just fall asleep just this.

As I thought of that.

“M, Mars-san. Sorry for the wait!”

As if jumping in with the whole body, Raphie entered the classroom in excitement.

She was breathing profusely.

She likely had come in a hurry.

“Are you alright?”

“Ye, Yes. Though it’s good that I am eager to let you eat the best bento, I ended up forgetting the time.”

Raphie smiled bitterly, while being embarrassed.

I am honestly happy that Raphie is working hard for my sake.

“Thank you, Raphie.”

“Mars-san, please say that after eating Raphie’s specially made bento.”

Raphie served up the bento held in both her hands.

For some reason, the bento wrapped in yellow cloth looks divine.

It's as if a halo is shining on it.

Even though I have not seen the contents, my instinct is murmuring to me.

That this bento——is not simple.

The evidence is from Raphie herself, her expression that is filled with confidence.

Her behavior is showing as if this bento is the supreme masterpiece.

“Come, Mars-san. Let's got to the courtyard! Lovers should harmonize their relations eating at the courtyard. It's always that way after all.”

Raphie pulled me by the hand, and moved towards the courtyard.



There are a few wooden chairs placed, around the courtyard.

Though not much, there are students who have their meal there as well.

As Raphie said, there are all couples.

Sitting side by side, they were enjoying their meal together while clinging close to each other.

Sitting a distance from the other couples, we sat at an empty place.

“Come, Please let me show you, Mars-san. This specially made bento that Raphie have to return to the female dormitory and borrow the canteen to make this morning.”

As Raphie unwrapped the bento on her laps, what came out was a silver squared bento box.

I guess it has a height of 4 cm and its 4 sides are of around 15cm each?

The size was bigger than I thought.

I wonder what kind of food are inside?

As Raphie opened the cover,

“....un?”

The insides of the bento were orange in color.

“Fufufu, Mars-san. What do you think this is?”

“.....bread.....I think?”

Raphie is smiling fearlessly.

I can't help but have a bad feeling.

“It’s a pity! All of these——are ginseng!”

“Ginseng...?”

But the shape is obviously bread.

With the triangular shape like a sandwich, there is something reddish in between the bread.....wonder if it’s jam.

It was something red like blood, having a really eerie color.

Though I can’t judge from just looking, something seems to be smeared at any rate.

“I mashed the ginseng and harden it into a bread-like shape. Basically, it’s ginseng that is shaped as a bread. However, during the process, I have mixed in a few seasonings into it. Well, I will leave it to your imagination on how the whole process was done.”

I wonder what the ingredients, other than ginseng, are?

Seasonings, what in the world is mixed in it?

Though it's a orange bread from just looking at it,

"Raphie has spreaded Raphie's special sauce to include a hidden taste."

....hid, hidden taste?

What is Raphie saying?

It's not being hidden you know?

If it's going to be a hidden taste, I will troubled if it is not being hidden.

But, isn't this hidden taste spilling out with no restraint?

"Come, Mars-san. Let Raphie feed you, okay?"

"N, no....."

This is bad.

I can feel the crisis for my life.

All my senses are appealing.

That this food is dangerous.

That his ginseng——is not simple.....

“Could it be that you dislike ginseng?”

Raphie lowered her eyes, and looked at me anxiously.

I somehow feel sorry if I do not eat it.

If you are talking about things I can eat, I do not have preferences.

If it's food that I can acquire nutrients from, I would even eat the meat of monsters.

But, how about this?

Though she said sauce, isn't it seething?

If I eat this, can I survive?

Sauce started to drip out from the gaps of the bread.

“c——!?”

Is it an illusion?

The dripping sauce that landed on the lawn of the courtyard, withered the lawn in that instant.

That's how it looks like.

“...look, Mars-san. A~n”

I can't run away.

I wonder when was the last time I met such terror.

Seriously, I do not want to eat.

But, this ginseng horror is food that Raphie had absented herself from lesson to make.

If that's the case, I can't not eat this here.

I can't flatly reject Raphie's feelings of wanting me to eat her cooking.

I resolved myself.

Paku— —

Mogu mogu.

"How is it? Is it delicious?"

Raphie who smiled sweetly looks really fortunate.

Just being able to see that face, I— —

Gokun— —

In the instant I swallow, I saw an illusion as if the sky has been cut into two.

Then, the feeling of falling into the bottom of the sea presses onto me.

Even if I tried to swim up, my body continues to sink.

My sight was dyed in total darkness, not knowing how far I will fall.

“Eh. M, Mars-san!?”

At that time, I lost my consciousness completely.

Chapter 48 - Raphie's Specially Made Bento ②

I can feel a soft fluffy sensation on my head.

It is warm and feel really comfortable.

It was a comfort that you wish to leave your body to forever.

It feels like the hazy conscious is being pulled and sucked away.

What was I doing just now?

I thought of that casually.

If I opened my eyes, I would be able to find out, but my instinct is rejecting it.

I should just leave my body to this warmth as it is.

That's what my instinct is appealing for.

But——Kan, Kan.

I could hear the ring of the bell.

I feel as if that was telling me to open my eyes.

“Ah, I guess the break time has ended.”

I could hear such a voice.

“Though it is regretful, I guess not waking him up would be bad as expected.”

Swaying, my body was shaken.

It was a gentle action.

“Mars-san, please wake up.”

Along that voice, my head was stroked this time round and,

“Nn.....”

My conscious started to return gradually, and slowly, I opened my eyes.

And then, there was— —

“Are you awake?”

Before my eyes was Raphie.

Looking at me, she is making a smile.

“.....Eh?”

I turn my head to the left to verify the surroundings.

I could see the maintained flowerbed and lawn.

After verifying that, I face the front again.

“How’s the sleeping sensation of Raphie’s lap pillow?”

Being asked that, I finally realized.

The soft sensation on the head, and the hard sensation on the back.

It seems like I was sleeping.

Taking Raphie’s lap as a substitute for a pillow.

“To the point I would like to ask again.”

“If it’s Mars-san, I would lend to you anytime.”

Actually, it’s really comfortable.

But, why was I sleeping here?

I should be moving towards the courtyard with Raphie——!?

“R, raphie!! What happened to that?”

Recalling, I jumped up to my feet.

Having eaten that murderous sandwich, due to the excessive gruesomeness....no, I guess I should described as vividness?

The clash of the mysterious taste robbed me of my consciousness.

It totally turned into a situation of suffering from a loss.

“That, as in Raphie’s specially made ginseng sandwich?”

“Yeah!”

That is something that should not be left in this world.

If handled improperly, this institute— —, no, the citizens of this continent will be murdered.

Opposite to my anxiety,

“So, sorry. As I was hungry, I have pretty much finished it.”

“...”

I doubted my ears.

Right now, I perhaps might have shown a stupid expression.

“Though I am really happy that Mars-san took a liking to it, that was Raphie’s favourite food.. So it’s definitely not like Raphie is a glutton, you got it?”

I wonder if it’s shyness.

Raphie is fidgeting her laps.

But, I am not shocked about that.

Are you telling me you ate that?

Are you telling me to this small stature rabbitfolk girl took in all that dreadful product into her body?

Or is that cooking a poison that take effect only against humans?

That’s why the rabbitfolk, Raphie, can eat it safely.

Is that the case?

That should be it.

It can't be wrong!

It's weird if it's not!!

“By the way, as I wish to let Mars-san eat it when you wake up, I left a piece behind.”

.....huh?

“I wanted Mars-san to have the last piece.”

Wait just a minute.

If I let another piece of that into my body, I would not wake up for the second time.

That's the premonition I have.

Picking up the bento box left on the side of the chair with her hands, Raphie removed the lid.

“Wait, Raphie!”

I stopped Raphie in a panic.

I can't let that be unsealed.

“What's wrong?”

Raphie looked in wonder, tilting her head to the side.

I have to somehow overcome this crisis no matter what.

“I am really grateful with Raphie's feelings, but isn't the next lesson starting

already?”

“Ah. Now that you say it, that’s true.”

“Then, let’s return quickly.”

I stood up from the chair.

“I got it.”

Raphie assented.

Seems like she agreed to it.

But I wonder why.

She left the bento box unsealed.

“But before we return, Mars-san *Aaahhh*”

With Raphie’s eyes sparkling, she looked at me with eyes of great anticipation.

“.....”

It appears that running away is not permitted.

I....can only resign myself to fate.

It’s something Raphie made for my sake.

In that case, it’s natural for me to clean it up.

Confirming my resolve, I opened my mouth.

Gradually, gradually, the food muddled with sauce approached my mouth and in the instant it entered the insides of my mouth— —

Shuu——Something transversed really quickly right in front of my eyes.

Chapter 49 - The Meeting with Cosette

“Ah!?”

Raphie raised a confused voice.

What, the murderous ginseng sandwich disappeared from Raphie’s hand.

I looked in the direction at something that went to the side.

“....a mouse?”

The mouse-like creature is stuffing its mouth with the dangerous sandwich on the lawn.

Plus, it’s eating it deliciously.

“He, hey! That was made for Mars-san, you know!”

Though Raphie was furious at the mouse, I am really relieved from the bottom of my heart.

Because of it, I could live longer.

This mouse is without doubt the Messiah. (TL: For someone who wipe off 10 goblin at one go....)

“Uh,Uhmm... Excuse me!.”

From the back came a voice of a girl.

Raphie and I faced the direction of the voice and,

“A, Uhm.. I am sorry. That creature, is my pet so.....”

It was an elf girl that came running over, while apologizing.

Smaller than the small stature Raphie, she seems to be rather timid, and was cowering. (TL: Loli No. 2.....)

“P, Pet? Not a familiar?”

Raphie asked the girl.

That voice was more of bewilderment over anger.

“Ye, yes”

“...though there isn't a rule to raise a pet.... I didn't expect that there would be someone that raised a mouse.”

“It, it’s not a mouse! It’s a hamster!”

A surprisingly clear manner of speaking.

As if the small creature just now that was cowering was a lie.

“It’s almost the same, isn’t it? Or rather, your pet ate Raphie’s personal food, you know! How do you plan to take responsibility?”

It seems like the anger of having the ginseng sandwich eaten had not subside.

“Th, that, I am really sorry.”

The girl lowered her head.

At that instance, her green twin-tail was swinging, *Fura fura*.

“Look, come and apologize properly, Pur.”

As the girl said, the hamster called Pur also lowered its head.

Does it understand human’s words.

Perhaps, it is quite smart.

Having a person and a creature lowered their heads, I can see that Raphie’s anger is subsiding.

“Let me ask of you too, Raphie. Would you forgive them?”

Raphie’s anger is natural.

After all, the food she made with utmost effort was taken away.

But, because of that, it's also the truth that my life was saved.

This is most likely the time for me to return the favor to this hamster.

“Muu.... Since Mars-san says that, it can't be helped. Listen well, be thankful to the lenient Raphie and the great Mars-san.”

Even though it's not like the words are truly transmitted, the hamster gave what seems to be a salute smartly.

Hey Hamster, it's not like I am great, you got that.

“You as well, if you plan to raise a pet, you have to make sure to discipline it well.”

Towards Raphie's admonishment-like statement, the elf girl obediently nodded.

“I am really sorry. Usually, it does not take the food from people. For some reason, it ran off with great vigor today, and I did not have the time to stop it.”

A modest girl.

I could see she is really reflecting herself from Raphie’s words.

“It’s fine if you understand.”

Seeing her state, I think Raphie’s anger has not completely subsided.

“Perhaps Raphie’s sandwich looks delicious to the extent of being dangerous.”

To my words, the hamster looks as if it's nodding in reply.

"Is that true?"

This time, it's Raphie who is asking and the hamster seems to be nodding its head.

Furthermore, bowing its head, it seems to be expressing its thanks.

"Pur, was it so delicious?"

When the elf girl squatted down, the hamster jump onto her side, and as if whispering to her ear, it squeaked.

"So much!?"

The girl admiringly said,

“It said that even if every bliss of the world gather, it is no match for that sandwich.” (TL:.....)

She translated the words of the hamster.

“Fumu. It seems to be a hamster that knows flavour.”

Raphie who finds it natural to be praised.

That cooking actually has its taste, recognized by even a hamster.

“However, that was made with a special sauce that only Raphie’s family

passed down for generations. Normally, that can only be eaten by the partner of Raphie. Since that has been eaten, you should truly reflect and appreciate it.”

I didn’t know that that was such a special cooking

Could it be that the rabbitfolk used that cooking to threaten and force a marriage? No, I must be thinking too much.

Even for Raphie, such a rude——

“After becoming a partner, you can’t eat it for some reason, so Mars-san should enjoy it while you still can.” (TL: Why does it feel like Mars fainted not due to the taste of the food, but his instinct making the food mentally disgusting, like trying to eat something when you are atrociously nervous.)

The angelic smile now seems to be one of a devil.

“I didn’t know it was so precious. I wonder if I am able to compensate it?”

Towards the elf girl who is truly worried,

“No, since you seem to have reflected plentiful, it’s fine.”

Showing a gently smile,

“I have not introduced myself, haven’t I? Raphie is Raphie Rabi. I am in the second year course.”

Raphie named herself.

“This person here is Raphie’s partner — —”

“Though not her partner, I am in the second year course, Mars Ruina.”

I introduced myself, interrupting Raphie's words.

And then, the girl nervously started talking in confusion,

"A, ah...I didn't know you were upperclassmen, I am really sorry for my impoliteness. U, uhmm, Cosette Sarua of the first year course. In regards to the matter just now, I am really sorry."

Seems like she's our underclassmen.

Because of that, she seems to be acting quite formal.

"You are Cosette-san. Not just the institute, as we might meet in the dormitory as well, at that time, do treat me favorably." (TL: I wanted to translate "please" in this statement, but from an upperclassmen POV, I thought it might not be appropriate so I took it out.)

"Y, Yes! Thank you very much. Raphie-senpai, please do take care of me." (TL:

I will use upperclassmen for the noun itself, but use 'senpai' when referring to the person.)

Fawning, Cosette lowered her head multiple times.

During that period, her twin tail swung in tufts.

Though meek looking, she seems like a really polite and serious child.

But, if that's the case, a question remained.

"Hey, Cosette. Can I ask something?"

".....yes. What is it?"

With a dubious expression, Cosette looked at me.

Perhaps she didn't notice.

“Is it fine not going for lessons?”

“.....eh?”

Pokan Cosette opened her small mouth.

“Well, the bell has already rang, so the afternoon lesson has started.”

“Eh? N, no way? But senpais also..”

“We are prepared to be late to get lovey dovey.”

No, we are not getting lovey dovey.

At the very least, Raphie was nursing me who lost my consciousness.

That’s the extent of my recognition.

“E, th, then——”

“If you plan to take your lesson, it’s better if you quickly returned. Though you are definitely late.”

“Wa, wawawawawa——”

Cosette ran away from the courtyard in a rush.

Before going off, she bowed towards us. What manners.

“I guess we shall go as well.”

“Ehh~... Why don’t we have a talk with just the two of us?”

Behaving like a spoiled child, she said that while showing upturned eyes.

“At least take the afternoon lessons. If you couldn’t acquire the grades, we can no longer be together, you know. Are you fine with that? I still wish to be with Raphie though.”

I conveyed what I truly thought.

“.....S, seriously, Mars-san really....”

And then for some reason, Raphie loosen her mouth,

“Then, I can’t skip out, can I?”

A tender smile floated on her face.

Chapter 50 - The Lesson on Pharmaceuticals

As it's confirmed that we are late, Raphie and I entered the classroom stealthily.

Though I should say it's natural, the hobbit instructor in-charge of the lesson just smiled wryly without pursuing further, and continued the lesson as it is.

"Did something happen since you are late?"

Immediately after taking my seat, Eri asked that,

"I was saved by the Messiah hamster when I was close to death."

When I conveyed the truth as it is,

“Did you see such a dream?”

It was thought as something that happen in the dream.

Well, normally a hamster wouldn't save a person so Eri's reaction is natural I guess.

“Anyway Eri, what's the current lesson?”

I changed the subject.

“It's Pharmaceuticals now. The in-charge is Instructor Sumina Krot”

Before I asked, She also tell me the name of the instructor.

I guess she anticipated that I didn't know.

Taking out the pharmaceuticals book, I put my sights on the Instructor Sumina.

She looks like a gently female hobbit instructor.

Having drooping eyes, her appearance gives the impression of gentleness.

Having short uniformed light brownish hair, though she doesn't look like a young boy, I could mysteriously feel the tolerance of an female adult.

(Her tolerance is the exact opposite on how she looks.....)

Even if hobbits grow up, they are a small stature race that can only reach the size of a human child.

Having longer span than humans, their appearance also change mildly even when they age.

As they are skillful with their hands, they are really good at disabling trap but due to their small stature, their weakness is their weak strength.

To compensate that, they are good at scuffling due to their lightweight to

move fast and also having various other strong points that can supplement to their weakness.

That is the trait of the race, Hobbit.

“Please do memorise the production process of the High Potion.”

Crap.

I totally didn't listen to the lesson.

(Okay, in regards to the production of High Potion.....)

Verifying from the content page, I flipped to that page.

It seems that the pharmaceuticals book records the compounding of the medicine.

#High Potion#

Ingredients

– Medicinal Grass x5

- Essence of Life Herb
- Glass Bottle
- Water

Compounding Process

Put in the Medicinal Grass into the glass bottle



Put water into the glass bottle, and wait for the seething medicinal grass to dissolve



Mixed in the Essence of Life Herb



Wait for it to cool down.

This is the basics workflow written on the pharmaceutics book.

Time required from seething to mixing in the essences of the herb seems to also depends on the atmospheric temperature and humidity of the day, and it's extremely difficult to ascertain those.

Without letting the heat cool down rapidly, the success of compounding is easier to acquire if one wait for the normal room temperature to slowly cool it down.

That's what was written.

Even with the knowledge, it doesn't seem easy to process it.

“In the lesson tomorrow, let's compound the Higher Potion in practice.”

Sumina said that.

As I have never compounded anything before, it will be my first tomorrow.

It's more convenient to buy the different medicines compared to compounding them.

Even if we have gathered all the materials, compounding would not necessarily be successful.

As the materials used in the failed compounding would be a minus, it's more efficient to buy completed medicines, if you think of the risk.

Though it's expensive so it's difficult to buy too much, its effects are immediate and you just have to drink it, so its merit is to be able to use easier in the midst of battle.

As health and magic power, and even statuses, can be recovered, it is a must for adventurers going into the dungeon, and if one can make it themselves, the

merit is big.

If you can compound it yourself, even against the guild or general shops, you can easily do business as well.

Though I heard that the guild only have herbalists in name, if there are lessons like this in this institute, there might be some adventurers that improve themselves in the skills of a herbalist, might be thinking of entering the guild.

As evidence, a portion of the students are seriously straining their ears to Sumina's words.

Though it could also be that Sumina's lesson was simply interesting.

After all, Sumina aren't writing from the books, but talking about her knowledge from her experiences unregretfully.

For example, the method to differentiate between herbs and poisons.

Mixing in materials that will raise the effects of the potion during compounding.

Which regions' forest allow you acquire certain medicinal grasses or herbs.

All are information that are beneficial for us.

Though I ended up falling asleep during the plain Magical Science, Sumina's

lesson is truly interesting as I have no prior knowledge to Pharmaceuticals.

“As you pulled out a medicinal grass that you have not seen before, there are times when it turned out to be a Mandrake. You guys know it, right? A Mandrake?”

At times, she might softened the class by using her failure episode unrelated to the lesson,

“Those that screams when you pull them out?”

“Yes. I almost died that time but I was saved by the elf adventurer who were together that time and cast Silent. Everyone should not go around pulling out grasses at random, you got it.”

She deepened the exchange with the students like this.

And by the time I realized, the bell rang and,

“Now then, please do revise what was done today. It might appear in your exams, okay?”

From start to end, the lesson proceeded calmly, and it came to an end just like that.

Sumina Krot is a very charming instructor and good talker.

That’s the kind of impression that is engraved in me.

Chapter 51 - The Electives ① The Three Selections

“The next lesson would be electives, but have you make your decision on what to take?”

Immediately after the Pharmaceuticals lesson, Eri asked me such a question.

Even if you ask me what electives to take,

“Sorry. What electives?”

I returned the question with a question.

And then, Raphie appeared in front of us with a *Pyoko*,

“Allow Raphie to explain for Mars-san’s sake! Electives are lessons that are selected!”

She gave the literal meaning of the words.(TL: The original word is Selection lessons rather than Electives, so Raphie was saying it like Selection lessons are lessons that are selected... So.. you know...)

But Raphie, I can understand that if it's that much.

What I wanted to know is,

“Blacksmithing and Alchemy. From these two lessons, you can choose to receive lessons on one of them. Both Blacksmithing and Alchemy lessons do equipment manufacturing. Though the difference is whether we are using tools or magic to make them.”

An definite explanation like what Eri has made just now.

“No matter what I choose, it's a lesson on manufacturing, right?”

“That's right.”

“Elisha-sa——I meant, Elisa-san. You forgot one more choice”

As if to prick at Eri’s explanation, Raphie interrupted.

One more?

“Yep. The choice of not choosing any of them.”

In other words, skip lessons?

I wonder if Raphie is one of those that skip school. (TL: Here the actual translated words were Skipping School Demon, but it sounds atrociously weird so I change to a more normal sounding sentence.)

“Yep. As said by Raphie-san, there is also the choice of not choosing.”

Eh?

Elisa agreed to an unexpected thing.

“The instructor’s policy for Blacksmithing is that people that can’t pour their souls into the equipment should not choose them, while for Alchemy, those that can’t treat their equipment as disposables should not choose them. That’s how it’s been decided.”

I see.

That’s why people who doesn’t choose either exists.

“Both lessons have opposite policies, don’t they?”

“But, I kinda understand the meaning of those words.”

“True.”

In Blacksmithing, just the production of one equipment would require long period of processing.

That is not something you can do half-heartedly.

That's to the extent of saying that the job requires one to pour in their souls.

In Alchemy, equipment are formed by putting in magic power in the materials.

If you get used to it, the time taken to form them are negligible.

But if the magic power contained in the materials wears off, the materials will return to its normal self.

Certainly, it's not for someone who has attachment to their equipment.

“By the way, in the case of not choosing anything, it will be self-training.”

“Self-training? Is it fine to just what you want to?”

“Yep. You can return to the dormitory and rest your body, and it's also fine to go to the Battle Drill Room for basic training——”

Interrupting, Raphie suddenly stuck herself to me closely.

“It’s also fine to go on a date with Raphie, you know!”

She said that while showing her upturned eyes. (TL: This upturned eyes things is starting to take a toll on me.)

“Ra, Raphie-san! Dating is not training, right?”

“That’s not true. It’s a splendid training curriculum. Didn’t you know that it’s mental training when man and woman date?”

“Eh, is that true?”

Eri, don’t get deceived by that.

No matter what you think about it, it's Raphie's lie.

"While putting the date aside, what did both of you chose?"

If it goes on like that, Eri seems like she is going to believe Raphie's lie, so I interrupted the conversation.

"I chose Blacksmithing. I don't intend to master Blacksmithing but I can calm myself when I hit the metal. Though I wouldn't say disciplining my spirit. "

As it's Eri who aims to be a knight, she might be particular about swords too.

I did think she didn't choose Blacksmithing casually.

"Raphie chose self-training, right?"

“Actually, Raphie also chose Blacksmithing.”

An unexpected answer was returned.

You are telling me Raphie who looks totally uninterested in equipment chose blacksmithing?

Just that with that, it was quite shocking.

“I am making cute accessories. Raphie is quite particular when it comes to accessories.”

If it's like that, I can understand.

Even from her atmosphere, she has the feeling of someone who likes cute stuff.

As when it comes to Blacksmithing, I can relate only to weapons and armor, but as long as it's something that can be attached to the body, you can make it, I guess.

Since both of them chose blacksmithing, I guess I should choose Blacksmithing as well?

But I am not so particular about equipment that I will pour in spirit into it.

Nor do I have any merit for choosing Alchemy.

I have already learnt Alchemy after all.

In the case of not choosing, it will be self-training.....

“Even if you choose any of the two, you can also take a break and switch it to self-training once in a while. I believe you can choose according to your preferences for this lesson.”

Likely seeing that I was troubled with my thoughts, Eri gave such an advice.

“Anyway, the instructor-in-charge for Blacksmithing is the Dwarf, Instructor Dodruka Drun and the instructor-in-charge for Alchemy is the Dark Elf, Instructor Listhy Lilifur.”

Raphie said that.

As I have never taken lessons from either, I am kind of interested in what kind of lessons they would have.

But——

“I will got with self-training.”

“I see. I got it.”

Eri accepted my decision while,

“Eh.... then Raphie too.... ah but, I am still in the middle of making the brooch..... Mars-san, just because Raphie isn't around, she must not go fooling around, okay!” (TL: Something girls that say this makes me want to reply “Don't worry. I would do it in front of you if I have to.”.)

While being troubled, it seems that Raphie also decided to go for the Blacksmithing lessons.

As soon as I saw both of them off the classroom,

“Mars”

Sail called out to me.

“What’s up?”

“Did you decided to do self-training?”

“Ah. Sail too?”

“Yeah. So.... hey, if it’s fine with you, would you join me with my training in the Battle Drill room?”

“Do you want to train together?” was what Sail seems to be inviting me to.

It’s the rare invitation after all.

“Why not. But, are we able to use the Battle Drill room at this time?”

“During electives, those who chose self-training are also high in numbers. That’s why the Battle Drill room is opened with Instructor Lania attached.”

Even though it’s self-training, you are telling me that there is an instructor.

And plus, it’s Lania.

If she called out to me, I should take note not to call her without honorifics.

For now, let’s move before the chime rings, shall we?

Though there is also the fact that I was listening to the explanations of the lessons, I was taking way too much time in the classroom.

It should be about time for the lesson to start too.

“That’s true.”

Leaving the classroom, Sail and I head towards the Battle Drill room.

Chapter 52 - The Electives ② Self-Training with Sail

There were already students starting with their own respective self-training in the Battle Drill room.

“Oh, both of you came as well.”

The one who called out was Lania.

She was leaning on the wall just beside the entrance to the Battle Drill room.

“Yo”

“Usu”

As Sail and I returned the greetings,

“Heee.... Both of you became friends. Well, both of you seems to be compatible with each other after all.”

Words that were slightly unexpected were returned.

Lania, that fellow actually thought that way.

As expected from working as an instructor, she might have the eyes to discern the nature of the opponent.

“Since it’s self-training, it’s fine to do what you want, but don’t go causing problems, okay?”

She said it with emphasis.

I wonder if I seem to be the type that causes problems.

As Lania had already said what she wanted, she turned her sights away from us to confirm the state of the surroundings.

Just as you would call self-training, while there are students making an effort in Foundation training, there are people who are training in the sword and also people who are doing beltwork in pairs.

From just a quick look, there seems to be around 20+ students in total.

The Dark Elves twins from the same Class A are in the group.

Thought what's curious is that students that I don't see in Class A are also present,

"Could it be that the electives class is a combination of Class A and B?"

As I asked Sail due to being bothered about it,

"That's correct. It seems that it's just about right to have Blacksmithing and

Alchemy to be a combination class. It most likely means that the students taking the lessons are low in numbers.”

It’s likely a true story since there are so many students coming to the Battle Drill room here to do self-training.

“.....well, it doesn’t matter who’s here. I will just do my own training.”

Sail is filled with motivation.

After all, Sail did expressly asked me to help him with his training.

“Then, what do you want to do? Beltwork? Actual combat? Or magic training as well?”

“Previously, when I was fighting with you, you said several things, right? First, would you teach me that again?”

If it's the fight with Sail, is he talking about the time during the welcome party?

"It seems like you totally didn't listen to what I said that time."

"Gu.... At that time, I lost my cool. I know that I am hot-tempered, but I don't seem to be able to control my emotions."

"That's a big weakness. If you lose your composure, you can't fight a fight you can fight, right?"

"Ugu....."

Likely because he was plainly told the sound arguments, Sail was at a loss of words with a sullen look.

"Well, if it can be cured by saying it, then there's no need for training."

Whatever it is, no other training beats actual combat.

“From now on, come attack me. I will give out advice while dodging the attacks. That’s why try thinking why you can’t connect your attacks.”

“.....Got it”

“It’s fine to equip yourself, you know?”

“No, I will do it bare-handed. My purpose is to connect my attacks after all, not to defeat my opponent.”

Sail replied plainly.

Seems like he is thinking more calmly about things than before.

Sail and I took some distance away from each other.

By the time we realized it, we took positions in the middle of the Battle Drill room.

The surroundings stopped their hands and looked in our directions.

As if the audience waiting for the fight of gladiators in a Colosseum, they were fixated on us eagerly.

“You can start anytime you know?”

As I called out to Sail,

“...then—here I come!”

Instantly, like the gale, the werewolf came drawing near on me.

I had thought about it since the last battle, but his speed is quite something.

Approaching right in front of your eyes in an instant, he is mowing down his right fist, targeting the side of my face.

But,

“In this case, it will definitely not hit, you got it?”

Just stepping back once would allow me to dodge it.

But, Sail’s attack isn’t stopping.

I guess he is thinking that if it won’t hit, then he will challenge it with the number of moves.

A blow that comes from a disorderly struck fists.

Foot movement seasoned from spring action.

Sail keeps making attacks one after the other.

Though he have been targeting the face, abdomen, shoulder, knees ankle, I dodged all those attacks.

Above following his eyes on his targeted position, his attacks is too straightforward.

“It’s fine to increase the number of moves, but with only such big movements...”

“Gu——”

Sail took a back-step to put some distance away.

“What’s wrong? Are you done?”

“Chi——I am just getting started!”

Though he came attacking with a dash attack again, he attacked with a light blow to check my movement this time.

Unsure if it’s due to listening to my words, out of the 3 blow, 2 of the blows became attacks to lure for the actual blow.

Basically, he stopped attacking his opponents with just big attacks.

Restraining the opponent with light and fast attacks, and attacking with a strong one when an opening is created.

That's the basic of close combat.

As Sail have high physical prowess, he seems to have neglected improving his techniques so he was attacking with every blow being intended to be a single-kill attack.

There isn't any problem if the opponent is someone with lower ability, but if the opponent is the same level or higher, it would no longer work in the near future, relying on just his physical prowess like in the current fight..

"You have become better slightly."

"...say such stuff only after I managed to put one hit on you."

Again, the attack became big— or so I thought,

"Oo—"

Sail took my back.

He seems to have managed to take my blind-spot.

If I think about his too straightforward attacks so far, he had become considerably better but,

“Yoo——”

I jumped to the back from that area, with a somersault.

“What!?”

Though Sail thrust his fist, that attack obviously didn't reach me.

Seeing me who danced in the air, Sail's expression twisted in shock.

Though if he extended his hands, he could have added in blows, I landed with nothing to do, and took Sail's back.

But, Sail doesn't turn to face me.

"What's wrong?"

As I ask, Sail finally turned,

"...as it is, I understand well that my attacks would not connect."

He said that while mixing a sigh in it.

There was the color of discouragement floating within those eyes.

"You got better compared to your previous self. How about trying to

continue?”

The Sail that only knows how to repeat charging like a boar in the previous battle, have become able to move irregularly, and release combined attacks of light and strong attacks today.

With just that, that’s quite the big improvement.

“Is, is that so? I, I was only too heated that time after all. I could do at least this much originally.”

Though it was quite the blunt manner of saying, his tail was swinging happily.

No matter what he says, his emotions are shown quite honestly——

“Buu——”

“Buu——”

Suddenly, I could hear blows of laughter overlapping.

“He’s becoming an obedient dog.”

“It might be that the master is scary.”

After bursting into laughter, the ones who slandered Sail without apologizing for their rudeness were the Dark Elves sisters.

Chapter 53 - The Electives ③ Sail VS Luffy and Lucy

①

I was sure the twins were Luffy and Lucy, wasn't it?

As they stood out when they were in the lesson for Magic Control, these two Dark Elves twins remained in my memories.

"Ah? What did you say, you lass!"

Obviously, Sail revealed his anger at the slander, showing his fangs.

However, not bothered by it,

"A weak dog really do bark a lot."

"Maybe it's trying to show its best to its master."

The Dark Elf sisters laughed.

“Hey, what did you just said?”

Sail was approaching the twins.

But the twin sisters stayed at their location and looked at Sail with a strange expression,

“A dog that bites is one that has yet to be disciplined.”

“We have to discipline it in place of its master.”

The twins that laughed with sarcasm, *Nya*

Though both of them have a humane figure and a delicate and beautiful look,

it gives a eerie feeling when both faces float an exact smile on them.

“Haha——”

Looking at those twins, Sail laughed.

Though it shouldn't be weird for Sail's anger to reached its peak due to the continued slander,

“Disciplined in place of my master?”

No, as expected, he has already snapped.

His eyes became bloodshot and a blood vessel can be seen on his forehead.

It seems like he has reached his limits.

“I am on the same opinion. To a bunch of bloody impertinent dark elves——”

Sail raised his right leg to a height where it reaches the head,

“——discipline seems to be required!!”

He swung his leg down right in the middle of where the twins were standing.

It was not an attack not to connect, but one to intimidate by leaving it to just pure strength.

The twins took a step to dodge that attack and split into both left and right position, encircling Sail.

“He seems to want to fight, you know.”

“He seems to want to fight”

Even when Sail and the twins started the fight, there was no one to stop them.

Instead, I could feel that the mood seems to be people trying to entertain themselves as spectators of this battle.

But, there are two of the Dark Elves and One Sail.

“Sail, if it’s fine with you, shall I assist?”

“I don’t need it!”

I was rejected.

“You shall receive the retribution for calling me a pet dog.”

Sail charged at one of the twins, the one of the right.

“A stupid dog”

“A stupid dog, you know”

Saying that to Sail,

““Darkness arise— —Seal the Vision.””

They said it, synchronising their voice.

“What— —!?”

Instantly, Sail's movement stopped.

And then, he started to look around restlessly.

"Wh, where? Where did you lasses go!?"

From that voice, I could clearly hear unrest in it.

The twins likely used some kind of magic.

It doesn't seem that Sail can see the Dark Elves appearance that are just right beside him.

"I am here, you know."

"I am here"

Wandering around in the surroundings, the twins said that to bewilder Sail.

“Gu, wh, where!!”

Losing his cool, Sail was swinging his fists disorderly.

During that time, the twins gradually walked to Sail’s back.

“Heehee”

“Heehee”

Seeing the confused Sail, they sneered.

“.....at the b, back!?”

Though he might be able to know the direction from the voice, I think it's going to be difficult to grasp the sense of the distance from it.

If his sight has been sealed, Sail, who has close-combat as his main, will have lower prospects of winning.

"Now, how should we go about disciplining, I wonder"

"Now, how should we go about discipline"

These twins seem to be already feeling victorious.

To prove that, they did not quickly end the fight, but was enjoying the process of winning.

They are likely convinced that they will not lose.

Now then, I wonder if it's okay for me to open my mouth to the Sail who is pretty much losing?

As he said not to interfere just now, I don't think it's good for his dignity if I

helped.

But, though he said not to interfere, he didn't say I can't speak. (TL: The original text actually says "don't reach out with your hand(interfere)" and "don't reach out with your mouth(speak)" to describe this but translating this directly doesn't make sense so it's "English-ify")

That's why I shall speak.

Personally, it isn't interesting to see my friend lose as it is.

"Sail, can you use 'Light'?"

As I said that, the long ears of the Dark Elves twitched.

Sail used the magic as told, and stroke the 'Light' formed on his hand at his face.

"m——"

Immediately after that, Sail looked around at his surroundings.

“You lasses, using such a troublesome magic.”

He began glaring at Luffy and Lucy.

It seems like his sights returned.

Since they used Darkness to seal off his sights, I thought that using light would scatter the darkness away, so it seems that it went well.

“.....haaaaa.....the master is slightly troublesome.”

“.....haaa, I agree totally.”

Though she said slightly, they seems to give a sigh that shows that they felt troublesome from the bottom of their heart.

However, the situation have returned with this.

How would Sail moved after knowing one of the opponent's move.

I guess I shall watch over the second round.

Chapter 54 - The Electives ④ Sail VS Luffy and Lucy

②

The first to strike was Sail.

“Oh Wind——Dance”

Activating his magic, Sail kicked the ground.

Instantly, a breeze occurred in the space of the ground and his feet.

Using the pressure from the wind, he drew near the twins with astounding speed.

“Raaa!!!”

Sail went cutting down on one of the Dark Elves with his sword-imitated hand.

But, black stuff started scattering from the “scar”, and the “cut” Dark Elf disappeared.

“With such an attack, it’s useless.”

“It won’t reach us.”

The supposedly cut Dark Elf was standing behind Sail.

“Tch——”

In a position of being sandwiched by the twins again, Sail smacked his lips frustratingly.

I wonder if it's a Dark-type magic.

It seems that what was cut was apparently a substitute in a shape of a human.

“Useless? It won't reach, you say?”

As if a wolf that is hunting his prey, Sail lowered his stance,

“Then, I just have to move at a speed you lasses can't cope with, don't you think!?”

——and sprinted off.

An explosive speed.

He is moving around with that speed to confuse the opponent.

“Only his speed is his merit.”

“Since it’s a beast, it can’t be helped.”

Even though the speed is something eyes would have a problem following, the twins’ expression isn’t anxious.

On the contrary, their expression did not change at all.

“All shall be swallowed by Darkness——”

“All shall be sunk in Darkness——”

Both of them started chanting simultaneous.

And then,

“Wh, what——!?”

Sail broke his stance.

His body is slowly sinking into the ground——the ground that has turned into something like a black pond is swallowing him.

It's not just Sail.

The students in the surrounding is also being dragged into it.

Though students close to the walls were not part of the victims as expected.

“Opps...”

Well, it doesn't seem like it's none of my business.

The dark hole has already swallowed to the height of my knees.

The twins' bodies were not swallowed by the Darkness.

The user doesn't seem to be affected.

"If you show your stomach like a dog and asked for forgiveness, I will spare you."

"If you wagged your tail obediently and humbly like a dog and abase yourself, I could let you be spared."

Those were words directed at Sail.

"....don't joke with me."

But, there is no way Sail would do that,

"Both of you, don't get too cocky!"

Suddenly, Sail who is being swallowed by the Darkness jumped into the sky.

Releasing wind from magic, he used the pressure from the wind to blow his body,

“Tear them up, Rip them apart and Mince them to bits.— — Whirlwind”

The magic that was released from Sail in that state.— —a violent whirlwind enveloped the twins.

“u— —”

“a— —”

I could hear the soft voices of the twins being cut ragged.

The ground has already returned to normal

But,

“....seriously. Making useless resistance.”

“.....seriously. Making useless resistance, you know.”

The twins were standing there calmly.

Their uniforms were cut torn, and not visible but there are no injury to be seen on their body.

Sail landed and gazed at the twins——before averting his sights not long after.

“O, oii.....”

Sail is obviously bewildered.

But, Sail is not the only one.

Looking at the appearance of the Dark Elves twins, there were people who averted their eyes, those that opened their eyes widely and stared. Basically, the people there were showing some kind of reaction.

“.....what’s wrong?”

“.....what is it?”

As expected that they felt something weird, the twins looked at each other and tilted their heads.

“A, are we continuing like this?”

As if a beast that has his teeth extracted, Sail was losing his fighting spirit.

“I don’t understand what you mean?”

“What are you saying?”

Really unable to understand what’s going on, the twins tilted their head in the opposite direction.

“You girls, don’t you think of anything looking at your clothing?”

Lania asked the twins.

“...? it’s torn?”

“...? it’s torn?”

It was torn.

To the point of almost naked, the clothes was torn apart ragged and tattered.

Though the bottom was hidden barely, the protrusion on the modest bulge on the chest can be seen.

Even then, the twins weren't embarrassed and was calm.

It seems that the surroundings were bewildered about it.

"..A, at any rate, both of you, just go get changed or something!"

Sail yelled at the both of them as he seems to be unable to stand the strange situation.

"We somehow got angry at, you know."

“We somehow got angry at.”

The Dark Elves exchanged glances.

“Weird dog.”

“Weird dog, you know.”

But, the twins laughed as if it was strange.

“I don’t care if I am weird or not, do something about that appearance!”

That shout was already close to what is a plea.

“Even if you say that, I don’t have a change of clothes, you know?”

“Even if you say that, I don’t have a change of clothes?”

Immediately after saying that, *Pon* as if something comes to mind, both of them clapped their clothes simultaneously,

“Ah, that’s right Lucy.”

“Ah, that’s right Luffy.”

Both of them exchanged glances again,

“Let’s get that dog to compensate us, you know.”

“Let’s get that dog to compensate us”

Speaking uniformly, they smiled happily.

Thus, the battle between Sail and the Dark Elf twins welcomed an unexpected conclusion.

Chapter 55 - The Store

Skinhead

A wound on the right eye.

Muscular body.

I am right now being glared at by a stern uncle that looks like the owner of a bar.

How did it end up like this?

If you are asking that, I might end up saying that it's because of Sail.

When the lesson ended, it is already after school.

Right now, we came to the store on the second storey to buy uniforms.

The uncle whose glare ends on me, seems unbelievably to be the owner.

Anyway, the members that came here are me, Sail, Lucy and Luffy, all four of us.

““The mistake of the dog is the responsibility of the owner.””

As Lucy and Luffy came saying that in their tattered clothes, I could do nothing but follow them.

By the way, they are currently in a state of using the magic stone as their replacement clothing.

“Oi, if you are going to buy, just hurry up and get it”

Towards Sail who said that irresponsibly,

“The dog should compensate.”

“The dog should compensate, you know.”

Saying just that, the twins just continued to stare at Sail.

“Oi, in the first place, if you lasses did not come asking for a fight, this wouldn’t happen, would it?”

I can understand Sail’s excuse.

Though I understand, Sail was also the one that request them to put on clothing.

“Then, I will have the owner compensate.”

“That’s true. The owner should pay for it.”

The eyes that were staring at Sail came facing me.

It's quite the weird feeling to have two of the same face to line up and stare at you.

In the first place, I am not his owner though.

"Sorry but, I don't have any money, you know?"

As I have never work to earn money before, I came here penniless.

Though I have no idea how much is a set of uniform, purchasing is impossible.

In the first place, I feel like they could get them something like uniform though if someone ask the instructor.

"You don't need money to purchase"

"You just need to perform a quest proportional to the item."

Quest?

So you receive quest to purchase?

“It’s usually troublesome quests. Something like pet or item search.”

Though Sail say it that way,

“Sounds interesting.”

Though I have no idea what kind of quest I can receive here, I am getting interested.

“Hey, Mars, don’t tell me you—”

Perhaps, Sail might be trying to stop me.

But, it's too late.

"I want 2 sets of uniforms for the both of them"

I called out to the owner.

"Two sets of female uniform? There is only sizes of M"

It was a stern voice that fits the stern face.

The owner took 2 sets of uniform from the below the counter.

“Is it fine to get the product first?”

“Yeah. But I will have you work hard, you got it?”

The scar on the right eye is dazzling.

I wonder what kind of quest it will be?

“The quest is from a girl of the Half Elf.”

A goat-skinned paper was handed over.

What was written down is the content of the quest.

Quest Description

Herb Gathering

Support for gathering various herbs in the forest near the institute.

Requesting not individually, but people who would certainly move together with the requester.

The day for gathering herbs will be this week’s day off.

Details can be acquired from Cosette Sarua of Year 1 Class B.

That's the description.

The client, Cosette, isn't that the owner of the hamster that ate Raphie's murderous ginseng sandwich?

I didn't notice it when I met her, but it seems that Cosette is a Half Elf.

"Are the students clients for the quests that can be acquired here?"

As I asked the owner,

"Not just the students. People who are related to the institute can all submit quests."

In other words, instructors and canteen chef, maids like Nirfa is also

applicable. (TL: It's been a while for Nirfa to come out.)

“Is there any merit to provide items for students' quest?”

“...this is a part of the institute's plan to train students. It's to the institute's advantage to train students”

I see

The graduates here are usually going to be future adventurers belonging to the guild after all.

I guess this is something like a rehearsal.

“You absolutely have to show your face to the client. If there is any reason you can't take the quest, make sure you contact them. Though I said that the results would not be question, if you give up on the quest and not make any contact, do note that the institute will drop you out of school.”

Drop-out, you say.

No matter what kind of circumstances, mutual trust is important.

People who are negligent of reporting is not suitable to become adventurers.

It might be something like that.

I understand. I shall meet the client tomorrow.

“You do just that.”

Receiving the uniforms from the owner, I passed them to the twins.

“As expected of the owner.”

“The pet dog is useless.”

After smiling at me, they stared at Sail.

“...you lasses, should I tear you guys apart?”

“Sail, I suggest that you don’t. You will end up having to buy uniforms again, you know.”

As I said that, Sail’s face cramped up and gave a deep sigh.

Chapter 56 - The Search for the Client

This was something that happened immediately after leaving the store.

“The owner is a good person.”

“I like reasonable people.”

Though the twin sisters said that,

“You know. I am not ‘Owner’ but Mars. Mars Ruina. Please remember it. Luffy, Lucy.”

I corrected them firmly.

I am troubled if they kept on calling me owner.

“You know our names?”

“You knew our name?”

The twins looked at me as if shocked.

“They are the names of my classmates. It’s not weird for me to know them, right?”

Plus, if there is a pair of twins with the same face, they are going to be conspicuous.

Even looking closely at them, I can’t differentiate the twins at all.

Unsure if they are speaking similarly consciously or not, I can’t judge who is Luffy and who is Lucy.

“That’s also true.”

“That’s as you said.”

Saying just that, they returned to their emotionless expression, just staring at me.

Looking at both of their appearance again like this, they have a really delicate figure.

The obvious dark skin that is the trait of Dark Elf and the same trait of long

ears of the Elf.

With purple long hair.

Without hair accessory, the straight hair reaches to the waist.

The bang were long as well, as if hanging by the face, reaching all the way to the shoulders.

Their eyes were of gold in color.

However, with the dull light, it gives a dark impression.

“I shall remember the name, ‘Mars’.”

“I shall save the name, ‘Mars’ in my memory.”

Leaving mutual words, both of them went off.

“Haaa.... Sorry Mars. It got troublesome because of me....”

After both of them left, Sail gave a large sigh as if becoming tired.

“I received the quest because I thought it would be interesting.”

As I said that, Sail showed that he was considering, and “....if it’s fine with you, let me help you with——”

“Ah~, I finally found Mars-san!”

When Sail was about to say something, a familiar voice interrupted.

As I direct my eyes, there was a girl that was approaching me in a rattle.

“Mars-san, I have been looking for you, you know!”

It was the rabbitfolk, Raphie.

“Oo, Raphie. You have not return?”

“Of course! There is no way Raphie would leave, leaving Mars-san behind.”

Shaking her ears, Raphie showed me her upturned eyes, as if wanting me to spoil her.

“As I saw that you left your bag in the classroom as it is, I thought that you have not returned to the dormitory. Do you have any business in the store?”

“Ah, I ended up receiving a quest.”

“Quest?”

Towards Raphie who tilted her head, I explained the sequence of events that results in me receiving a quest.

“... in other words, because of that wolf there, Mars-san is shouldering the burden, is that right?”

Raphie’s voice turned cold.

Her narrowed eyes is obviously aiming at Sail.

“Tch——”

Seeing such a Raphie, Sail smacked his lips.

But, the fact that he didn’t talk back at all might mean that Sail himself also thought that way.

“It’s fine, Raphie. It’s something that I wanted to do.”

“...mu.....I got it. If Mars-san says that.”

While looking sour, Raphie reluctantly nodded.

“As the client might still be in the institute, I will try to go to the Class B of the Year 1 right now.”

“Then, Raphie shall also go together. The client is Cosette, right?”

I nodded.

Raphie is also acquainted with Cosette after all.

Since she also said it, I guess I shall have her follow me.

“What are you going do?”

“.....It’s originally my responsibility that it turned out like this. So let me accompany you.”

“I got it.”

Like this, we went towards the Year 1 classroom.

Until we reached the classroom, Raphie and Sail were intimidating each other.

Year 1 Class B.

Though there are a number of students that stayed back in the classroom, the vital person, Cosette, is not in.

“She doesn’t seem to be in.”

“She still might be here, so just in case, let’s ask the students that remained,”

Saying that, Raphie asked,

“Uhm, excuse me. Has Cosette Sarua-san return?”

She asked a human boy.

“a—”

And then, the boy was speechless.

“What’s the matter?”

I shook the Kouhai’s shoulder who was harden and not moving at all.(TL: Kouhai: Underclassman) “A, Yes! Please excuse me. I didn’t expect Mars-senpai would come here.”

The boy was looking at my face with sparkling eyes.

What a Kouhai that can’t settle down.

“So, what business do you have here?”

“...has Cosette Sarua-san already return?”

Raphie repeated the exact same question.

“Cosette-chan?”

“Yes. We received a quest from our client who is Cosette. If she’s still in the institute, we would like inquire something.”

Raphie who speak politely even towards a kouhai.

Excluding a portion of the students, this might be the basic conversation style to anyone.

“Ah, that’s what it’s about. Most likely, if it’s Cosette-chan, I believe she should be in the courtyard.”

“Courtyard, is it?”

That’s the place where Raphie and I met Cosette at the end of the lunch break.

“Yes. She seems to be looking after the courtyard’s flower after class. It looks like after entering the institute, she has been doing it almost everyday. After all, a number of the students in the class have seen it. ”

It seems that it’s something that a portion of the Year 1 students know.

If that’s the case, let’s go there at once, i guess.

“I see. Thanks.”

“N, no! If there is anything, please do come anytime!”

He bowed his head.

Though originally we should be the ones that are grateful.

“You don’t have to be so polite. If there’s anything again, I shall be in your care.”

“I, I got it!”

Since we heard what we want, we left the classroom.

As we begin walking towards the courtyard,

“L, let’s try talking to Mars-san!”

“He doesn’t seem like scary person, does he?”

“Yeah, he looks like a good person.”

“Yesterday, I saw him fight at the courtyard, and he was really awesome.”

I could hear such conversations from the classroom.

Maybe due to the excitement, all theirs voices were loud.

While it was the same at the dormitory yesterday, I seem to be considerably feared of.

“Mars-san’s fame is steadily spreading within the institute!”

Though I feel sorry for Raphie who is very serious, I believe my fame is not

rising.

It's just that the rumors that were exaggerated are spreading.

In the first place, ever since I come here, I have not even fight a single proper battle.

Because of that, only my face and name is unnecessarily well-known.

“.....for now, let's go to the courtyard.”

We went towards the courtyard speechless.

Chapter 57 - The Plans for the Day Off

Advancing straight after making a left turn out of the Year 1 Class B classroom, and making a right turn soon after, there is a pathway going out to the courtyard.

And as we entered the courtyard,

“Ah, she’s there.”

The figure of a green-haired half-elf can be seen.

As according to the kouhai, Cosette was looking after the flowerbeds.

“Gr~ow beautifully. Gr~ow beautifully.”

As she sprinkled water on the flowering plant using the watering can, she seems to be chanting some kind of chant.

Following the music, the hamster on Cosette’s shoulder was also shaking its small body to the left and right.

“What kind of magic is that?”

When I called out to Cosette,

“Uhya!?”

Shocked, Cosette turned around in panic.

At that moment, she spilled the water from the watering can in her hands on me.

“O, oi, you okay?”

“Ah, A~, I am sorry! I am sorry.”

She kept bowing her head.

The twin tail on her head also was shaking according to that movement.

Even the time during the break, this girl seems to be apologizing all the time somehow.

“Don’t be so bothered.”

“B, but...”

“Cosette, rather than that, I am here to report that I have taken the quest.”

I spoke to Cosette about taking the quest to change the subject.

“Eh? Then, does that mean that means that Mars-senpai has taken my quest?”

“Yep. These two that came with me are my escorts.”

As I said that,

“Cosette-san, it’s been a while since the the break.”

Raphie called out to Cosette.

“Ah, Raphie-senpai. I am really sorry about what happen just now. Pur is also reflecting on it.”

The hamster called Pur also lowered its head and showed its feelings of reflection.

“It’s fine. That matter has also been settled after all.”

Seeing Raphie’s gentle smile, Cosette also floated a smile.

“Could it be that Raphie-senpai would also be helping?”

“Yes. I am thinking of helping Mars-san.”

Saying that, she winked at me for some reason.

As expected, Raphie is planning to help at all costs.

“Thank you very much. A, uhmm, may I know who this werewolf might be?”

Cosette was showing a smile to Raphie.

However, as she sees Sail, her eyes were clouded, and seems like her face cramped up.

“Hey wolf-guy, please don’t bully Cosette-san!”

“I, I didn’t do anything, did I!?”

“H.....”

Cosette seems like she is going to cry due to Sail’s angry voice. I guess she is

scared of the werewolf's scary face and sharp eyes.

"See, she's scared as expected."

Raphie who immediately retorted Sail.

"Gu——so, sorry."

"N, no, mo, more like, I am sorry for being afraid."

Being said to be scared of, Sail dropped his shoulders.

"...it's Sail Rhaur. If it's fine with you, do let me help as well."

"It's S, sail-senpai, right!? I, I shall be in your care."

Though her expression was stiff, Cosette managed to reply with a smile.

Now then, Sail's introduction has also ended.

I guess it should be about time to verify the details of Cosette's quest.

"Then Cosette, it's fine for the herb gathering to be on the day off, right?"

"Ah, yes. As we will be leaving the institute, senpais, please also do get permission for outside trip?"

Permission for outside trip?

It is necessary for such a thing?

"How should we go about getting such a permission?"

"It's fine just telling the dormitory in charge. If it's the males' dormitory, the maid this morning——it was Nirfa-san, right? I believe it will be fine to just tell her."

Raphie answered my question.

I didn't know you need permission to go out of the institute.

"A, ah, have you not go out after entering the institute, Mars-senpai?"

"Ah, I only just got admitted just a while ago after all."

"E..... is that so?"

Cosette opened her mouth, looking surprised.

As expected, transfer students are rare.

“Be at ease Cosette-san. If you leave it to Mars-san, a quest or two is just a piece of cake.”

Though I am not sure if that's true, I don't intend to fail.

If we are going to do it, I intend to complete it without fail.

“Ah, sorry. That's not what I mean. Just that, I thought that transfer students are rare.”

Hearing Raphie's words, Cosette apologized to me.

“No, It's not something you have to apologize about. Now then Cosette, is there anything you need on the day itself?”

“Nope, I will be preparing what's necessary on my side. I think I will request everyone for the gathering of herbs and escort.”

Though I don't think monsters that require escort would come out, I guess it's preparations for worst scenarios.

“What should we do about the day's rendezvous point and time?”

“As it will be hard to find herbs in the dark forest, it will be good when it's still bright. Is it fine after we take our lunch? The rendezvous point would be in front of the main gate.”

“Is it fine for the two of you?”

As I faced both Raphie and Sail, both of them just replied nodding their heads.

“...ah, oh yeah.”

There is something I have to verify.

“Until the day off, how many more days of lessons do I have to take?”

After 6 days of lessons, I heard that there is a whole day to rest, but I didn't confirm which day is today?

“As today is the fifth day of lesson of this month, it will be the day off after tomorrow's lesson. Anyway, this is the fifth month, having entered the fifth day.”

Raphie was the one who told me that.

“I got it. Then, best regards for the day itself.”

“Y, yes! It might be troubling but I shall be in your care.”

Just like this, the plans for my day off was confirmed.

Chapter 58 - Elisha's Vow

By the time I returned to the dormitory, it's already the time for dinner.

Though going to the canteen directly is fine, I first wanted to return to the room once.

I wonder if Eri has already returned?

As I entered the room on the 3rd floor, "Welcome back, Mars"

Eri came to welcome me.

Unchanged, she was still in her uniform.

"Oo, I am back."

".....un."

Just saying that, Eri averted her eyes from my face.

She seemed to be packing some items into the bag on her desk.

"Are you going anyway?"

As I asked that, Eri stopped her work and stood up.

And then, she looked straight at me with sincere eyes, and said "...hey Mars. I will be living in the female dormitory from now so..."

Female dormitory?

.....I see. There is already no need for Eri to stay in the male dormitory.

"So you were preparing to leave the male dormitory."

The male student, Elisha Haynest, no longer exist.

The Elisha right now is a female student called Elisa Hiland.

"Yeah. But, the preparation is pretty much completed. After all, there isn't much luggage in the first place too."

Though the bag seemed to be stuffed, I believe if we think about it as a single person's luggage, it should be considered on the low side.

“.....could we at least have dinner together for the last time?” (TL: Not like I don’t understand, but she can always come over and eat like Raphie actually.)
“Though I wish to do that, I have to go for today. I have to greet my roommate on the other side no matter what, so I do not wish to be too late.”

“I see. Then tell me when you are done. I will at least see you off.”

“To say to see me off, that’s quite exaggerated. We will meet each other tomorrow, won’t we?”

Eri said that with a bitter smile.

But, that face quickly changed,

“Mars, thank you.”

For some reason, Eri gave words of gratitude to me.

“I am able to make a step forward because of Mars. I have gotten a chance to get stronger.”

I was the one who gave her chance.

But, the one who decided to make the move is Eri.

So it’s not something to be thankful of.

Also,

“It’s still too early to say thanks, you know? What you need to persist on are the things coming from now on, right?”

Become a knight, and protect everyone.

Since you have such a splendid aim,

“.....that’s true.”

A strong radiance dwells in those silver eyes of hers.

Looks like she renewed her determination.

That’s the expression Eri is making now.

“Mars, would you be okay to listen to my vow.”

“.....okay.”

‘What kind of vow?’ wasn’t something I would ask.

I thought that it might be boorish.

After all, her eyes that stared at me is so serious, “It’s something that I have vowed to Tou-sama, Kaa-sama and also Ojii-sama. But there are times when I was about to be crushed. As I am weak, I am always just thinking of getting stronger towards my dream, and ended up losing to myself.”

It’s possible that something like this to do.

Having a big dream or aim, but due to one’s insufficient strength, it wasn’t accomplished.

It’s not like everyone with dreams or aims will have their wish granted.

If it’s just that, even I know that.

It’s already been a while but after Master Aine’s death, there was a time when I could totally not feel a thing. I do have reminiscence of such feelings.

“That’s why this is a vow to cheer on the miserable me when I am about to be crushed.”

Eri took a breath, and opened her mouth.

“I will become knight. A knight that protect everyone. And——as a friend of Mars, I will show you that I will become strong enough so I can stand by your side without feeling embarrassed. I will become strong enough to protect you someday.”

She did not avert eyes.

I firmly received every word.

“That is a new vow that I——Elisa Hiland made. A vow of myself to Mars.”

With the words of vow, Eri’s eyes I am looking at were pure.

“That vow, I have definitely heard.”

That is a vow deep from the heart.

“You vowed that to me. You can’t just go crushing yourself from those small things, you know?”

“Yeah, of course.”

Saying that,

“That’s why please stay as my friend from now on too. Mars”

Eri showed a gentle smile to me.

“Aa, of course.”

To my answer, that smile turned into a full-faced smile.

*

Thus, Eri left the male dormitory. (TL: Seriously, why write it like she’s gone forever –_-”) From now on, Eri is likely going to be hitting into walls.

And each time, Eri is likely going to be distressing over various stuff.

But, during such times, I believe it’s when we, as friends, should support them.

Even if we are no longer roommates, Eri is my friend.

That won’t change even from now on.

I saw Eri off until I couldn’t see her figure.

After that, I returned to the dormitory.

“O, Oh, Mars. If you are going for a meal, shall we go together?”

“Ah, let’s go.”

And then, I went for dinner with Sail who invited me at the front of the stairs.

The dinner that Nirfa made was also extremely delicious today as well, but for some reason, I still feel unsatisfied.

I wonder why I feel that way.

Chapter 59 - Invitation to the Student Council

——Kon Kon

Hearing a knocking sound from the door, “Excuse me.”

I could hear a voice.

It’s a female voice.

If it’s a female that is in this dormitory, then it’s likely Nirfa, I guess?

Or could it be that Elisa forgot something and came to pick it up?

I raised my body, and looked down from top of the bed, “Good morning. Mars-san.”

“....ah, morning.”

Though I have no idea why she came, the visitor was Nirfa as expected.

The time seems to be morning already.

“The bell have not rang, right?”

“Yes.”

Then, I shall go back to sleep.

Let’s sleep at least until the bell rang.

Though I tried returning to sleep by sinking into my bed, “Please wake up, Mars-san. I am requested by Elisa to wake you up so you won’t be late”

.....so that’s it. (TL: Total wife-material.) I see, Nirfa came to this room because Eri requested it. She seems to be worried that now that she’s not here, I might not be able to wake up in time and be late.

It’s really like the serious Eri.

“If Mars is troubled by it, I will restrain myself from now on though....”

As predicted by Eri, the possibility of me being late is high.

If you are willing to come to wake me up, that’s a very grateful thing “No,

Nifa, if it's not troublesome for you, can I rely on you?"

As I requested,

"Don't be! It's my job to aid everyone."

Even though it is a troublesome task, Nirfa nodded happily.

I have been under her assistance since living here.

I have to return the favor some day.

But the possibility of being late has become lower.

If it's just me, I would be lazy after all.

"Well then, I shall return to prepare breakfast."

After bowing, Nirfa went out of the room.

Now, I guess I should just finish up changing before the bell ring.

*

After having my breakfast, I went towards the institute.

Maybe due to being much earlier than usual, the students going towards the institute were few in numbers.

Perhaps, I might be able to be the first to reach the classroom.

As I thought of that after going past the front entrance of the institute, "Oh? Mars-kun?"

Someone called out to me.

As I faced towards the direction of the voice, "Ah, Alicia-senpai"

The president of the Community "Student Council" was there.

"You're early. I was sure that the bell have not rang, wasn't it?"

She might have thought that it's unexpected of me to come so early.

"No, it just happen——"

Though I was about to say "by chance", this is the serious student council president, so it is certain that she is going to retort in regards to the honorifics again."

“It’s by chance. Do senpai always come at this time?” (TL: It’s quite hard to show the difference in politeness in English.) “Yeah. As the student council is tasked with the preservation of the minimum level of public order within the institute, doing patrols is also included.”

Fuu.....It seems like I am free from retorted about honorifics.

“President”

As I was talking to Alicia,

“I have completed the patrols of Level 1 and 2. At present, there is no particular problem.”

I wonder if she’s a member of the student council?

A human girl was giving such a report to Alicia.

“Good work. Then, please standby until the rest of the members have completed their patrols.”

“Roger. Uhm.... President, who might this person be?”

The girl directed her sights to me.

She seemed to have noticed I was talking to the President.

“This is Mars Ruina-kun of the 2nd Year. The transfer student I was talking about the other time.”

“...this person is”

Opening her eyes, her eyes gave a look of interest.

(Or more like...why talk about me?)

Though I was thinking of such a question, “Nice to meet you. I am Serika Rilante.”

The girl named Serika greeted me, after strengthening her back.

The greeting was made cleanly and have totally no feeling of sluggishness.

“Though Serika is still in her 1st year, as she managed to acquire top results within the students of the entries this year, she became a student council member having recommended by the Instructors.”

Alicia added such an explanation.

“Though I am still an amateur, I shall push forward towards my objective everyday.”

Saying that, her expression stiffened.

Together with Alicia, they seem to be quite the serious students.

Though she has quite the intensive impression, here eyes are slack-less and dignified.

Her cheerful orange hair is cut to the point the it's hanging above the eyes and hiding the ears.

Being considered tall among the female students, she gives quite the lively impression with her slender body.

“Though Senpai has already introduced me earlier, I am Mars Ruina. Though I have just transferred in recently and still do not know much of the institute, I shall be in your care. ”

I gave my introduction.

Serika replied to it by nodding.

“Now then, I shall be going to the classroom soon.”

Saying just that, it was when I am about to move towards the classroom.

“Hey, Mars-kun. Today after lessons, are you able to come over to the student council community room?”

Alicia asked such a thing.

Student Council Community Room.

I was sure that she did say the day before yesterday that I can come anytime if I am interested....

“Are you busy?”

“Nope, I do not have any plans.”

I am indeed interested.

The student council that houses this institute's most superior students.

“Is the student that senpai said previously being stronger than you in the student council?”

The thing I couldn't ask the other time.

If that student is there, it's not bad to try meeting him.

“Yeah. He is also a member of the student council.”

Alicia replied unconcernedly.

Since she said 'he', I guess he's a guy.

In that case, it's a senpai at the dormitory I am in?

Then, it's a chance.

Using this chance to meet is not bad at all.

Thinking that,

“I understand. I shall be coming over to the student council after lessons.”

I conveyed my intention.